

## Remarry 581

### [Chapter 581 True Or False](#)

When Sullivan was long gone, Zac quickly dialed Jack's number. Once the call was connected, he said with a cold smile, "Jack? I need your help." Jack couldn't see it, but Zac's face was unreadable and hard on his side of the phone.

"What happened?" Jack's suspicious voice came through the phone.

Zac's words were enough to give Jack that gut feeling that something wasn't right. He wouldn't be this way if something unexpected hadn't happened.

For a moment, Zac didn't know how to answer Jack. He sighed, but didn't wipe that cold smile at the corner of his mouth.

"Well, you won't believe it, but Sullivan just left my place. He came looking for me," Zac finally answered, but without giving anything else away.

Jack stayed with his mouth open, stunned for a moment. He could hardly believe what he just heard. "Zac, you must be joking!" He finally exclaimed after finding his tongue.

"Why on earth would I joke about something like this?" Zac asked, almost irritated.

Zac's tone and words made it clear to Jack that something was wrong. He could feel it in his guts. "Don't tell me you're really going to work in partnership with Sullivan!"

"Well, what do you think about it?" Zac asked with a little bit of mirth in his voice.

Hearing what sounded like happiness in Zac's voice, Jack pursed his lips in confusion and hissed out, "Why then do you sound so happy at a time like this? You're really not..." Jack paused, not finding the right words to explain exactly what he thought of Zac at the moment.

Anyone with a discerning eye could tell what Sullivan was up to with just a single glance. And it definitely wasn't anything clean. Jack could have never expected that Zac would willingly want to work with that man. What had come over his friend?

Understanding Jack's silence, Zac frowned, but not for long. A faint smile soon flashed across his face. "Jack, do you really think that I will let myself be fooled by Sullivan?"

"I'm not that stupid, okay? Give me some credit!" His tone was firm, but that ever present smile didn't leave his lips.

Jack was taken aback by Zac's tone. But he realized from the way he spoke that maybe, Zac really couldn't be fooled so easily. He wouldn't head into something without having a plan in mind.

"So, what strategies have you put in place?" Jack asked curiously.

Zac smiled, but didn't answer the question. Instead he changed the topic.

"How is the Sampson Bay project moving along?"

"Just great! You don't need to worry about it with me being here," Jack answered casually with confidence in his voice. "Zac, don't change the topic. I know that's what you're trying to do. What exactly do you have in mind concerning Sullivan?"

"Oh, it's nothing. Don't be so paranoid."

Zac's silence about the issue only helped to stoke Jack's curiosity. He was practically dying to know what Zac was planning to do.

"Zac, come on, don't hide it from me. I'm sure you've got something up your sleeve!" Jack simply couldn't control his curiosity.

Tired of Jack's gossip, Zac sighed and swiftly told him what he planned to do.

Jack was shocked after listening to Zac's plan. To him, the plan was a little too risky, and instead of it putting Zac in a better position, he might instead lose the current advantage he had.

"Zac, are you serious? You know you can't joke about this, right?" Jack stated firmly, openly disagreeing with what he just heard.

If Zac was indeed serious, he couldn't in good faith advise his friend to fight against Kareem with the hard-won advantage he had already obtained. What if he lost it? Nothing was more terrifying than that.

It would be great if Zac won obviously. But if he accidentally walked into a trap placed by Kareem, things would go down the drain very quickly.

Zac smiled, understanding Jack's worry. "Don't worry about it, Jack. I know what I'm doing," Zac reassured him firmly.

Hearing this, Jack could not help but sigh slightly in defeat. He knew that there was no use saying anything to dissuade Zac because it would be useless. Nothing could change his mind especially after he seemed to have made it up.

"Well, it's all up to you. Just don't risk your life for this," Jack said and hung up the phone without giving Zac a chance to say something.

Zac looked at his phone, not believing that Jack had hung up on him. Then, he dialed Giselle's number

after a while, asking her to help him check on the information Sullivan had already given him.

In truth, Zac was just putting up an act, making Sullivan to believe that he had walked into his trap.

Just as Zac had predicted, Sullivan was more than happy when he learned that Zac had called Giselle asking for help. His plan was moving accordingly. Now, he just had to sit and see what Zac would do next.

Sullivan knew that as long as Zac trusted Giselle, it would be easy for him to be at an advantage. And from there, he would be able to make a big fortune from Zac.

Sitting opposite to Sullivan and seeing the expression on his face, Kareem knew that something was up. He cleared his throat and commented suspiciously, "You sure look very happy."

"Of course I'm happy! Why wouldn't I be? Zac has walked straight into the trap I set for him." Sullivan was more than eager to be attributed credit for his successful exploit.

Surprised by this, Kareem's eyebrows raised instinctively. He looked at Sullivan with amusement in his eyes and asked softly, "Oh, really?"

To be honest, Kareem didn't for one second believe that the ever cautious Zac could ever fall into this trap Sullivan had concocted.

Added to that, Sullivan wasn't a capable man. He lacked wit in such situations. How could he possibly fool Zac?

Kareem was sincerely curious to understand how this happened, while Sullivan wasn't surprised at all. In fact, to him it was perfectly normal.

"Look, I can't give you any more details about it. Just know that I've got my own tricks that work perfectly," Sullivan said proudly. A hint of cruelty flashing through his eyes and revealing his true self.

Sullivan could be anything, but he was no fool. If he really told Kareem the secret surrounding the Sampson family's company, he knew he would be in trouble.

It was not easy for him to get a trump card, and there was no way he would ruin it like that. He would play that card just when he needed it.

Kareem just had to take a single look at Sullivan's face to know what was going on.

Sullivan had always claimed that he had a way, but Kareem had never known what it was actually. However, it was very clear that Sullivan knew the secret. If he didn't, he wouldn't be so confident.

As this thought crossed his mind, a sharp look flashed across Kareem's eyes. He glanced at Sullivan

discretely, trying to get any hint of something from his face.

Sullivan stood still for a moment after feeling Kareem's eyes on him and seeing the suspicion in them. That was when he realized that bragging about it wasn't the most ideal thing to do. In fact, it was a very stupid move on his part.

"I can't tell you anything about this," Sullivan said in a tone more subdued, and even looked depressed.

Kareem certainly understood Sullivan. No matter how much he wanted to get the information from him, Sullivan would not tell him.

Suddenly, Kareem looked at him and coughed lightly. "Well, just make sure you keep working right for me, and I won't make things difficult for you." Kareem gave Sullivan a faint smile.

Sullivan hurriedly lowered his head, finding it impossible to look into Kareem's eyes. Why was Kareem looking at him so sharply?

"Of course. I will make sure to give it my best," Sullivan whispered in a voice that trembled. It was as though he was absolutely scared of Kareem.

#### [Chapter 582 Be Careful](#)

When she heard that Zac was going to cooperate with Sullivan, Patricia was instantly filled with worry. So, when Zac returned, she went up to him.

"Zac, are you really going to work together with Sullivan? Don't you already know what kind of person he is?" Patricia asked anxiously.

She knew very well what kind of person Sullivan was. He was a selfish person who cared about nothing but his own interests.

If Sullivan had just managed Sampson family's business well, he wouldn't have ended up like this.

"What is it, Patricia? Just say it," Zac told her gently.

Despite the nervous look on her face, Zac, on the other hand, looked calm and relaxed.

When Patricia saw his expression, her features tightened with anger. "Zac, I'm being serious with you right now," she said with a glare.

She was trying to talk about an important matter with him, but he didn't seem to be taking her seriously at all.

However, the angrier Patricia looked, the more delighted Zac seemed to be. Eventually, he burst into laughter.

Patricia stared at him with an indignant expression. "Zac, what's the matter with you? I'm talking to you seriously here, and suddenly you're laughing at me?" she exclaimed in disbelief, stamping her feet in anger.

Zac couldn't keep the smile off his face as he grabbed her by the waist and held her close. "Don't be angry. I know what I'm doing," he assured her.

"What do you mean you know what you're doing? This is dangerous!" Patricia said incredulously.

She was really confused about Zac's recent behavior. She had no idea what he was thinking.

Zac couldn't help but chuckle at the look on her face. "Don't worry about it so much. It's not as bad as you think."

"It's not as bad as I think? Don't you know what kind of person Sullivan is? You don't even know what he wants from you," Patricia said furiously.

However, Zac's happy smile never faded. He reached out and gently touched her hair. "I know what kind of person Sullivan is, but I also know exactly what I need. He's a good pawn. If I can make use of him, things will be easy for me," he said in a gentle tone that calmed Patricia as she listened to him carefully.

The next second, however, she seemed to realize something and frowned. "But you might be the one who ends up getting used. You shouldn't underestimate him."

Sullivan used to be the president of a big company, after all. Even though he wasn't now, he remained a man who was capable of many things. He had been a businessman for years, so he couldn't be that naive.

Zac understood what Patricia was trying to say. She was simply worried that he would fall right into Sullivan's trap.

"What if I say that I'm willing to bite his bait?" Zac said casually as if he thought it wasn't a big deal at all.

Patricia stared at him in surprise, a frown instantly curling her lips. "What?"

She must've misheard him or something, because why on earth would Zac bite the bait on purpose? Was he being serious right now?

Zac chuckled and touched the tip of her nose. "You don't believe in me so much, do you? Do I seem so foolish to you?" he asked with a raise of his eyebrow, looking as if he was annoyed by Patricia's words.

Patricia shook her head as she coughed. "No, it's not that I don't believe you. It's just..."

She was just worried about him. Things couldn't be that simple. Sullivan proposed a cooperation with Zac which made it obvious that he had ulterior motives up his sleeve. If Zac really agreed to work together with Sullivan, then it was possible that he would just be walking straight into a trap.

Zac looked at the expression on her face and knew what was going on in her mind. He couldn't help but laugh as he hugged her tightly in his arms.

"Don't worry so much. I won't fall for tricks like that. I'll make sure to be careful," Zac assured her in a firm voice, hoping that Patricia would stop worrying about him.

"Really?" Patricia said, frowning. "But I'm still a little worried. You never know what he could do."

This time, it was Zac's turn to frown. He looked at Patricia and coughed slightly. "Do you think Sullivan is smarter than I am?"

Patricia suddenly didn't know what to say. That wasn't the point though, she was just concerned about Zac.

"I know you're smart, but I just want you to be extra careful," she told him softly.

Zac nodded his head, the smile never leaving his face. Honestly, he felt that recently Patricia had become prone to nagging a lot more than usual.

"Patricia, don't you think that you've been fretting too much recently like an old woman?"

Patricia's expression changed into that of displeasure. "What do you mean by that, Zac? Are you saying you don't like me anymore?" she exclaimed, turning around angrily while folding her arms across her chest. She didn't seem to be in the mood to talk to him at the moment.

Zac simply smiled as he rested his chin on her shoulder and licked her earlobe. "Patricia, don't be angry. I was just kidding. If you're mad all the time, you'll get old easily."

Patricia scowled at him, taking a deep breath to calm herself. She felt that Zac liked to joke around with her freely nowadays, which was probably because he had become friends with Jack now. "Zac!"

"Come on, don't be angry," Zac said as he gently stroked her hair and bent over to kiss her on the lips, preventing her from talking.

Despite Patricia's concerns, Zac knew very well what he was doing. There was no way he would let himself be used. He knew that Sullivan was up to something, so he wanted to know what it was, and he wanted to know Kareem's plans as well.

As for Patricia, Zac only wished that she would be safe. He didn't want her to get involved in this. This was between him and Kareem only.

## [Chapter 583 A Trap](#)

"Mr. Reynolds? Here! This is exactly what you need." Sullivan handed the document over to Zac so respectfully that one would have thought he was the most serviceable man.

Zac raised his eyebrows slightly and stared at the document he now had in his hands with anxiousness. He was trying to pass across the message that he was very eager and excited to be finally getting the document.

And of course, Zac's plan worked because Sullivan soon gave a smiled smugly after noticing his look. He felt like he was closer to victory than he had ever been before, and he couldn't keep that cunning glint from showing itself in his eyes.

"Mr. Reynolds, now that I have given you what I said I would, it's time for you to make good on your promise,"

Sullivan said with a joyful and expectant smile. He shot Zac a flattering look, willing him to pay up.

Still playing his part, Zac pursed his lips as if annoyed with Sullivan for asking for his pay at a time like this. Acting impatient and displeased, he cleared his throat and took out a check from his pocket.

He signed his name on it, and gave it to Sullivan. "Here. You deserve it," he said in a low voice. Zac then waved his hand quickly. "You're free to leave now, Mr. Sampson," he said, wanting him to leave as soon as possible.

Understanding the message that wasn't spoken, Sullivan knew he had to go. Without a word, he turned around and strode away. He believed he had done his part, so he was off the hook. Now, it was all up to Zac to handle things as he saw fit.

Zac turned to look at Sullivan's receding figure with sharp eyes. The moment he was out of sight, the fake front he had put up in front of Sullivan disappeared.

His slender fingers tapped on the document on the table repeatedly, and his deep-set eyes suddenly became sharp.

Sullivan was the only one who knew how much of the so-called information in the document could be trusted. It would be so easy for the man to play a trick on Zac right now. And it was no secret that Sullivan wanted to get even with Zac.

Indeed, Giselle was the one who came up with the secret password of the Sampson family's company, but Sullivan was the one who really operated it. If anyone knew what had changed and what had not changed, it was Sullivan.

Zac couldn't help sneering as he thought of this. He couldn't put anything above Sullivan. So, he took out a lighter and watched the document burn.

Zac had only decided to play along because Sullivan and Kareem were so sure that he would buy it. He would take the bait they placed on purpose and see how they would react to that.

"Looks like my role acting isn't over. Until next time then," Zac whispered to himself with a wry smile. With a calculating smile, Zac looked up at the ceiling, seeming to be deep in thought about something.

When the news of the bad management of the Sampson family's company spread out, Sullivan came to Kareem to ask for credit, feeling confident with a smug look.

"As you can see, I didn't just spout words. Thanks to me, Zac was really fooled this time around." The flattering smile on his face would have made anyone to confuse him for a very friendly person.

Kareem didn't believe Sullivan could pull this off, but he nodded gently with a gentle smile. He took a sip of wine and glanced briefly at Sullivan.

"I guess congratulations are in order, Mr. Sullivan. Looks like you really put a lot of thought on this plan for once," Kareem commented dryly without even sparing Sullivan a glance. This was actually the type of outcome he was expecting.

Sullivan's joy and confidence deflated and turned into something else entirely when he saw the look in Kareem's eyes. He had thought he would at least get some benefits this time for a job well done. But judging from Kareem's indifferent expression, it was clear he wasn't about to get anything.

Kareem noticed the change in Sullivan's humor and frowned. "Mr. Sampson? Are you not happy?" he asked in a tone that dripped with false concern. It was obvious that he didn't take Sullivan seriously at all.

Even though Kareem pointed it out, Sullivan knew it would be a mistake for him to say exactly what he thought. So, he took it all in, put on a smile and said, "How could I not be? You should know, Mr. Reynolds, that it is an honor to work for you."

He had to force those words through his lips because it was a lie and it killed him to say the opposite. After working for Kareem for so long, Sullivan felt that it was unfair for him not to get any benefits. He would be lying if he said he wasn't often depressed because of that.

Kareem smiled coldly as he watched Sullivan.

He wasn't born yesterday. Of course, he knew what was going through the man's mind.

When Kareem chose to begin cooperating with Sullivan, it was for one reason only. All he was interested in was information on the Sampson family's company. But till date, Sullivan hadn't let a single thing slip. He had done a very good job of keeping it to himself.



To make things worse, Sullivan went ahead and did a one-man show, blowing Zac off. Kareem had no idea what was going on at all. He had simply been left on the side-lines as though he had no power.

Needless to say, Kareem was very angry about this and it was written all over his face. He knew how he felt, but he didn't know what to say.

Finally noticing that Kareem was seething with anger, Sullivan couldn't stop the frown that graced his face. He had always known that cooperating with Kareem was a bad idea. He didn't know why he did it anyway.

"Mr. Sampson?" Kareem suddenly called out. When their eyes met, Kareem searched Sullivan's, trying to find something and only confusing the man.

Sullivan walked to Kareem and said with a flattering smile, "Mr. Reynolds, what can I do for you?"

"What is your next step?" Kareem asked and took a sip of wine, looking at Sullivan over the rim of his glass.

Sullivan lowered his head at this, displeased with the question and unable to hide it from his eyes. If he was being honest, he didn't want to answer that question.

"Well... I... I haven't made up my mind..." Sullivan forced out a bitter smile.

He couldn't afford to mess up now. If he told Kareem what he had planned to do, he would lose a chance to take back the company.

The only reason why Sullivan was going to such lengths was to take back the company.

Zac had purchased the company for Patricia and decided to throw Sullivan out. The deep hatred in his heart wouldn't disappear so easily. And if anyone thought he had let it go, they had a very wrong concept about the type of man he was.

Throughout this time, Sullivan had secretly been working and buying shares to facilitate his return to the company. He was determined to one day take back what was rightfully his.

"Is that so?" Kareem drawled out, raising his eyebrows in intimidation. He had expected such an answer. Sullivan was fighting to keep everything he did a secret.

In the business world, the only thing that would always go on was the fight for one's interests, and not the goal to make enemies for a lifetime. Of course, having no one else, Sullivan had to make a plan for himself.

Realizing this, Kareem smiled and said in low voice, "I have a plan, Mr. Sampson. I wonder if you may be interested in it." He looked up at Sullivan and gave him a smug smile that spoke volumes.

Sullivan frowned, getting a strange feeling from all of this. Something wasn't right with the way Kareem was looking at him.

However, he didn't let his reservations show. With that ever flattering smile on his face, Sullivan asked suspiciously, "What kind of plan is that, Mr. Reynolds?"

With a hand, Kareem motioned for Sullivan to come over so he could hear what he had to say.

Sullivan's eyes went wide as he heard Kareem's plan.

Kareem's plan was a little too risky, and he was not sure it could hurt Zac as Kareem thought it would. In fact, he thought it might rather blow up in their face in a very negative way.

#### [Chapter 584 A Plan](#)

"Mr. Reynolds, it's too risky. You should know this isn't a simple matter," Sullivan tried to persuade Kareem. He thought the stakes were too high.

Kareem frowned at his words as he said in a low voice, "I make the decisions. I don't remember asking for your opinion."

As he heard this, Sullivan closed his eyes and pursed his lips. Kareem was too reckless to see the situation clearly.

If he insisted on this idea, not only would both sides lose, but perhaps Kareem would be hit the hardest.

"Mr. Sampson, just do as I said," Kareem ordered, his eyes fixed on Sullivan.

With a subtle nod, Sullivan didn't say anything else. He just turned around and left.

Since Kareem made up his mind, he would face the consequences alone.

Sullivan just needed to do his part. He would benefit from the result anyway.

As soon as Sullivan left, Kareem called Anika.

"How is everything going?" His tone was as cold as that of a king giving orders to a subordinate.

On the other end of the line, Anika smiled. She didn't mind his tone. "Don't worry. It's all settled. What about you?"

"All settled too." Kareem couldn't help but grin from ear to ear.

Now that everything was ready, it was Sullivan's turn to do his part.

Soon, the news that the Sampson family's company was in trouble reached Patricia's ears. Worried about Zac, she wanted to go to the company and see him, but Nicholas stopped her.

"Patricia, I understand your concern, but have a little faith in Zac," Nicholas coaxed her confidently.

As far as he was concerned, there was nothing Zac couldn't deal with. Over the years, the latter had faced so many problems just to come up with the perfect solution that Nicholas didn't think this time would be any different.

However, Patricia didn't share his optimism. She hadn't spent as much time with Zac as Nicholas had to blindly trust that he would be okay.

Therefore, the moment she heard there was a problem, she was so worried that she couldn't eat or sleep. She kept thinking about Zac.

"Nicholas, aren't you even a little worried about him?" Patricia asked sadly. Her eyes were full of concern. She wished she could go to see Zac at that instant.

Although Nicholas knew what she was thinking, this was a critical moment, and it would be better if Patricia didn't show up right now.

Besides, Zac had already punished him for the last time. Having learned his lesson, Nicholas wouldn't let Patricia do anything reckless again.

"Patricia, I know you're distressed, but I can't let you see him now. It's too risky at this point," Nicholas told her seriously.

No matter how much Patricia begged, Nicholas wouldn't give in this time.

"Nicholas..." Patricia pleaded.

Nicholas stared at her and said in a low voice, "Patricia, I won't let you out even if you hate me for this later." He was resolute.

Seeing this, Patricia couldn't help but sigh helplessly. With a frown, she studied Nicholas' face and knew that no matter what she said, he wouldn't let her go.

She started pacing through the room, worried about Zac.

"How is Zac doing now? Is he in danger?" Patricia muttered mostly to herself.

As Nicholas heard this, he answered with a chuckle, "Don't worry, Patricia. He'll be safe and sound. Besides, Jack is with him."

Patricia was a little relieved to know that.

Meanwhile, in Zac's office, Jack crossed his legs and looked at Zac. The corner of his lips tilted into a discreet smile.

"Hey, Zac, don't you think that's a little too much?" Jack asked seriously.

Zac had made everything more complicated. When Jack heard about it, he rushed over to see what was going on.

"Don't worry about that," Zac said as if everything was under his control.

Jack frowned, looking at Zac suspiciously. He couldn't help but be confused. "Did you really think this over? Aren't you afraid things won't go as you planned?"

It wasn't that Jack didn't believe in Zac, but the current situation was indeed very complicated.

Although it seemed that Zac had everything under his control, there were greedy eyes watching him intently and waiting for a chance to snatch the Sampson Bay project from him.

If something went wrong in the Sampson family's business, these people wouldn't hesitate to take it over.

At this point, the Sampson Bay project would also be in danger, and it would be hard to save it.

Seeing Jack's expression, Zac couldn't help but purse his lips. Then a faint smile appeared on his face, and his eyes flashed shrewdly.

"Jack, I know what you're worried about. Believe me, I've thought about it as well," Zac said and lowered his head thoughtfully.

Jack continued to look at him suspiciously. Without saying anything, he stood up and walked over to Zac.

"Do you really want to take the risk?" Although he was doubtful at first, as soon as Jack saw Zac's expression, he realized he had been right all along.

He knew Zac too well. Once he made up his mind, no one could change it. For a long time, he had control over everything. Besides, there was nothing he wouldn't do for Patricia.

Now, he was determined to keep the Sampson family's business and the Sampson Bay project for her.

Yet, this was not Patricia's wish. Maybe all she ever wanted was for Zac to be safe.

Still looking at Zac, Jack bit his lower lip and murmured, "Zac, just think it over. I know you're confident, but you must be careful with Kareem." Jack's face was stern.

They couldn't afford to treat this matter trivially. They had to find a way to fix it soon.

With a frown, Zac pursed his lips and looked at Jack, not knowing what to say.

"I..."

Despite being a very confident man, Zac was sometimes confused too. However, since Sullivan came to him, he had a plan.

#### [Chapter 585 Zac's Longing](#)

Jack's anger dissipated at the expression on Zac's face. He patted Zac on the shoulder and said softly, "I know what you are thinking."

Seeing Zac's expression, Jack knew he had confidence in himself.

But he was still a little worried. He knew that things weren't as simple as they seemed.

"You have made up your mind, but I have to remind you that dealing with Kareem and Anika will not be as simple as you think. If they really make a move, things will become very troublesome," Jack said seriously. He couldn't help but sigh at the situation they were in.

Zac nodded. He knew what Jack meant.

Zac and Kareem were at crossroads with each other. Someone must make the first move.

Since Kareem wasn't doing anything, Zac would take the initiative.

Sullivan, on the other hand, was a potential danger for Zac.

He had shown his value to both Zac and Kareem.

Sullivan had the secrets of the Sampson family in his hands, and he had no intention of showing them.

He could take advantage of them while they were busy plotting against each other.

Zac pursed his lips at this thought. He whispered to Jack, "I'm more worried about Sullivan. I don't know what he's going to do."

Jack frowned unhappily at this. "Don't worry about him. No matter what tricks he has up his sleeve, you will have to deal with it calmly."

He was of the view that it would be impossible for Sullivan to take back the Sampson family's company, no matter how much he wanted it.

After all, the company had been divided when under Zac's management. It would not be that easy to take it back.

Zac's lips twisted downwards, his helplessness suddenly becoming obvious. He looked sad at the thought of Patricia and couldn't help but murmur, "How is Patricia now?"

"If you are worried about her, you should go take a look yourself," Jack said, glaring angrily at Zac.

Sometimes he really didn't understand what was on Zac's mind. If he really missed Patricia so much, why didn't he go see her?

Moreover, Jack knew that Patricia missed Jack too.

"But..." Zac said hesitantly.

If he were to really do this during this time, it would have an impact on Patricia.

Jack noticed the look on Zac's face and understood what he meant.

"It's up to you. But if I were you, I wouldn't be able to control myself. You know what kind of a person Patricia is. She must be worried about you." Saying thus, Jack patted Zac's shoulder again, turned around, and left without another word.

He would go back to his own house.

As he watched Jack leave, Zac felt a mix of depression and helplessness engulfing his heart. He did not know what to say.

But he knew that he missed Patricia very much. They hadn't seen each other in days. He didn't know how she was.

The more he thought about it, the more he couldn't control himself. In the end, he chose to see Patricia.

It was already two o'clock in the morning when Zac arrived at the apartment. The room was dark. He guessed that Patricia must have fallen asleep.

He had wanted to come earlier, but solving the problem at hand had taken up a chunk of his time. He had had no choice but to come back quietly, even at this time.

He walked up to the room and opened the door quietly. His lips curved into a gentle smile when he saw Patricia sleeping.

The peaceful look on her face satisfied him to no end.

He sat down beside her and caressed her messy hair. Warmth engulfed him as he heard her steady breath and felt her heartbeat.

Zac didn't know how long he sat there. He only got up when he began to feel hungry. It was at this moment that Patricia opened her eyes, looking dazedly at him.

"Zac, you're back?" Patricia asked suspiciously, disbelief clouding her eyes.

She rubbed her eyes and looked again. This time, her eyes widened in surprise as they confirmed to her that Zac was here indeed. She grabbed his wrist in excitement.

"Zac, you're back!" Patricia exclaimed.

She held his hand tightly, unwilling to let him go.

Zac couldn't help but laugh at the expression on her face. He touched the tip of her nose with a finger as he said softly, "Yes, I'm back."

The surprised look on her face told him that she had been yearning for him too.

Before Zac could say anything, Patricia got to her feet and pulled him out of the room. "Are you hungry? How about I cook noodles for you?"

Zac grinned and nodded. His hunger seemed to multiply at her words.

Patricia made her way to the kitchen and quickly cooked a bowl of noodles for him. Once he had finished eating, she finally asked him about the company's affairs.

"Zac, I heard that there was a big problem in the company. Can you handle it?" Patricia asked worriedly.

As soon as she heard the news, she began to worry and was unable to eat or sleep well. She begged Nicholas several times to let her see Zac.

But Nicholas refused and told her that this was a special period and her appearance would only affect Zac negatively.

Patricia thought that Nicholas was right. The situation looked bleak, indeed.

But she still felt uneasy. She hadn't seen Zac in days. She felt empty and wanted to call him, but didn't have the courage.

But now that she saw him, she must seize this opportunity to clear some things up.

Zac chuckled at the expression on her face. He gently flicked her forehead and said, "Why do you look like you are interrogating a criminal? I'm your man. Your mean attitude breaks my heart."

Patricia's nostrils flared with anger at this. She glared at him before exhaling a heavy breath.

This was not the right time for Zac to joke around with her.

#### [Chapter 586 Cooperate With Me](#)

The next moment, Patricia glared at Zac as if she wanted to settle all accounts with him.

Seeing the expression on her face, Zac burst out laughing. He smiled and patted her shoulder. "Patricia, don't pout like that. We seldom get the chance to meet. Do you still want to fight with me?"

He looked at Patricia with his bright, innocent eyes, feigning pity.

Seeing his expectant eyes, Patricia pursed her lips and sighed helplessly. Zac was right. They finally met each other, so it wouldn't be right to quarrel now.

"I'm not quarreling with you. I'm asking you something important," Patricia said intently as she gazed deeply into his eyes.

Seeing the expression on her face, Zac knew what was going on. He could understand what she was thinking.

The next moment, Zac pulled Patricia in his arms, wrapping her in a tight embrace. He rested his chin on her shoulder and asked softly, "Patricia, do you believe me?"

Without hesitation, Patricia nodded. She undoubtedly believed her man.

However, it was a little strange for him to ask such a question. A frown lined her forehead. "What do you mean by that?" she asked, rolling her eyes.

"Nothing. I just hope you can trust me and my ability," Zac said softly. His confidence and strength were evident in his tone.

Hearing that, Patricia nodded. However, there was a trace of suspicion in her eyes. She bit her lower lip and asked, "So, are you confident regarding this matter?"

"Well, I'm not very confident. But I think the problem will be solved," Zac replied firmly.

Patricia nodded and didn't bother questioning him further. Zac sounded determined this time, so she chose to believe him.



"Zac, I believe in you." Patricia involuntarily wrapped her slender arms around his neck.

Seeing the meaningful smile on her face, he gently said, "You not only have to support me mentally but in action as well." Zac smiled and playfully knocked his forehead against hers.

Seeing the twinkle in his eyes, Patricia arched an eyebrow in suspicion. Before she could question him further, Zac pressed his lips against hers.

Patricia's eyes fluttered close as she responded to the kiss.

Meanwhile, Sullivan just walked out of Kareem's room after discussing the plan.

The moment he stepped out of the room, his gaze fell on Anika. "Miss Curtis, why are you here today?" he asked politely.

Hearing that, Anika nodded and cast a meaningful look at him. "Mr. Sampson, would you like to talk to me?" she asked, smiling indifferently.

Sullivan frowned when he saw the complacent look on Anika's face. He immediately understood what she meant.

"Why would you want to talk with me, Miss Curtis?" Sullivan pretended to be confused to find out Anika's intention.

However, Anika didn't give him the chance to test her intention. She crossed her arms over her chest and looked at him with undisguised arrogance.

"Mr. Sampson, you are a smart man. I know you understand what I mean. I need to talk to Kareem regarding something. Please wait for me at the cafe near the hotel. When that's over, I will talk to you." With that, Anika walked into the room, leaving no chance for Sullivan to speak.

Hearing that, Sullivan frowned and stared at Anika's back with suspicion.

His hopes would have been high if he had another friend or partner.

A smile emerged on Sullivan's face as he thought about getting Anika's help and getting a fortune from her. His brows furrowed as he started planning how to take advantage of her.

Sullivan was waiting for Anika in a cafe near the hotel just like she asked him to.

But he didn't expect Anika to arrive as soon as he sat down.

"Mr. Sampson, why don't you cooperate with me?" Anika asked as soon as she walked in, leaving no

chance for Sullivan to think.

Sullivan's eyes widened as he looked at her in surprise. He was happy to know someone had realized his worth.

"Miss Curtis..." Sullivan rubbed his temples, pretending to be depressed as if he were still mulling over what to do.

Anika seemed relaxed as if she had expected such a reaction from him. "Mr. Sampson, you are a smart man. You should know whom to side with," she said as a faint smile tugged at the corners of her mouth.

Anika took out a check from her pocket. The amount on the check was enough to frighten Sullivan.

His eyes widened in sheer horror. Sullivan wasn't obsessed with money, but he hadn't seen such a large sum ever since he became bankrupt. The money Zac gave him wasn't even nearly close to what she offered.

Sullivan swallowed and looked at Anika with suspicion. "Miss Curtis, what do you mean?"

"Mr. Sampson, you are a smart man. How could you not know what I mean?" Anika arched an eyebrow and looked at him.

Her every word was loud and clear. Sullivan would have undoubtedly understood her motive.

He couldn't help but laugh at her statement. "Miss Curtis, you are a smart woman." Sullivan nodded and put the check away.

Anika understood his gesture. She grinned and reached out her hand. "Mr. Sampson, I wish us a pleasant cooperation."

"Yes, Miss Curtis. I wish us the same." Sullivan looked ecstatic.

A triumphant smile emerged on Anika's face as if she was sure to win this time, and everything was under control.

Anika didn't cooperate with him until now because she wasn't sure if Sullivan was capable enough.

When Anika heard that Zac had suffered losses, she sent her people to investigate what Sullivan was up to. That was how she found out his secret.

But now it seemed that things were not as simple as she had thought. Anika always felt that Sullivan had some secrets.

That was the main reason why she wanted to cooperate with him.

## [Chapter 587 Duel](#)

Zac and Kareem both knew about the alliance formed between Sullivan and Anika, but they didn't take this information seriously. Instead, they were so absorbed in the current situation and only focused on defeating each other.

Zac deliberately released the information about the company suffering losses in order to lure Kareem out so he could deal with him that way.

However, it wasn't as simple as Zac had thought it would be. Just like he did, Kareem also made his move.

At this moment, Zac was in his office, seething. His features were contorted in fury, but there was also a trace of desperation in his eyes.

Nicholas looked at him with a frown. "Boss, please calm down. It's already expected that Kareem would have a counterattack up his sleeve," he said in a gentle, placating tone.

Zac's face fell in response. What Nicholas said was right, but...

Zac's elaborate plan had been ruined by Kareem. Not only did Zac suffer great losses as a result, but he also lost a good opportunity that was right in the palm of his hands.

The rage consumed Zac once more, and he bit his lower lip to restrain it inside.

The current situation wasn't as simple as Zac had thought, after all. In the past, he could've asked Jack for help, but now...

Zac heaved a long sigh, lowering his head with a forlorn expression.

Nicholas watched him with a frown. "Is something wrong, boss?"

Zac's lips stretched into a thin line before he opened his mouth to speak. However, before he could, Jack suddenly called.

"Zac, things aren't going well this time," Jack told him in a nervous voice. It seemed that something had happened.

Zac's lips curled into a frown, a sudden sense of uneasiness spreading to his gut. "What's wrong?" he asked in a low voice.

On the other end of the line, Jack swallowed audibly, and he seemed quite anxious. "The Sampson Bay project is very likely to be taken away soon," he whispered.

Shock filled Zac's body in an instant. His mind went completely blank as he stared into space, a hint of

fear flashing in his eyes.

Nicholas watched the transition on Zac's face and immediately felt uneasy. He wanted to ask questions, but Zac's expression rendered him at a loss for words.

When Zac rushed over, Jack was standing there, looking very tired. The incidents regarding the Sampson Bay project had already been settled, so there should be no problem. However, what Jack said earlier made Zac worry all of a sudden.

"Jack, what happened?" Zac asked him anxiously. There had to be a mistake or something; Jack had promised him that everything would be fine.

Why did things turn out like this?

Jack looked at him with a crestfallen expression. "We've all been tricked," he said in a strangled tone. He was so angry that he couldn't breathe properly.

They had worked with another developer before, so they thought that the guy was reliable and trustworthy. However, it turned out that he was on Anika's side all along.

Anika still held a grudge against them because of what happened before, so it seemed that she took this opportunity to exact her revenge.

And in all honesty, Zac and Jack had never expected it at all.

"Jack, did you look into this matter carefully?" Zac asked, suspicion lacing his words. He still couldn't believe it.

Jack sighed and reached out to pat Zac on the shoulder. "Personally, I don't think it's true, but it seems that Anika sent someone here. It's obvious that she's the mastermind behind all this," he explained helplessly.

Zac listened to him in stunned silence. At that moment, he remembered all of Anika's old tricks from before. However, Zac forgot about that and focused all of his attention on Kareem, ignoring Anika in the process.

"Things aren't so simple anymore ever since Anika joined forces with Sullivan," Jack muttered.

Zac suddenly also remembered that Anika and Sullivan had indeed worked with each other before. However, this realization came too late now, because the company had already suffered losses.

"It seems that it's difficult to defend against them. I didn't expect..." Zac's voice trailed off, not knowing what to say at this point.

Nicholas watched the transition on Zac's face and immediately felt uneasy. He wanted to ask questions, but Zac's expression rendered him at a loss for words.

With a downcast expression, he gave a heavy sigh.

With e downcest expression, he geve e heevy sigh.

Jeck shook his heed. "We didn't expect thet, either."

The two of them sighed helplessly es they pondered how they could solve this current problem.

"Whet should we do now?" Jeck esked quietly, his question hinging in the eir. He looked over et Zec, cleerly et e loss whet to do next.

Zec lowered his heed with e frown es he thought about it deeply in his mind.

Jeck wetched the expression on Zec's fece, restraining himself from opening his mouth egein to speak. He didn't went to disturb Zec until the letter wes finished thinking things through.

Beceuse honestly, the current situation wesn't something thet Jeck could solve.

It must be e reel challenge for Zec to deel with Anike, Sulliven, end Kereem ell et once.

"Zec..." Jeck spoke up, looking et Zec expectently.

However, Zec only shook his heed in response. He still hed no idee whet to do. This felt like e predicement he couldn't seem to get out of et the moment.

Jeck frowned, e hopeless look coming over his fece. "In this situation, I'm efraid we..."

"Don't worry. I'll teke cere of this. Even though it seems difficult right now, I believe we cen get through this no metter whet," Zec seid celmly with e serious expression. Although things weren't es simple es he thought they would be, he still hoped that he would be eble to teke down Kereem end Anike.

Jeck nodded slightly, looking et Zec in concern. For some reeson, he felt thet Zec hed resolutely mede his decision.

This mede Jeck feel e little worried.

"Zec, it's fine es long es you don't ect recklessly. Be cereful end don't do anything stupid," Jeck seid, sounding slightly enxious.

If Zec mede e risky plen et this point, they would be doomed.

Zec looked at the expression on Jack's face and smiled. "Don't worry, Jack. I won't do anything reckless," he said solemnly.

With a downcast expression, he gave a heavy sigh.

Jack shook his head. "We didn't expect that, either."

The two of them sighed helplessly as they pondered how they could solve this current problem.

"What should we do now?" Jack asked quietly, his question hanging in the air. He looked over at Zac, clearly at a loss what to do next.

Zac lowered his head with a frown as he thought about it deeply in his mind.

Jack watched the expression on Zac's face, restraining himself from opening his mouth again to speak. He didn't want to disturb Zac until the latter was finished thinking things through.

Because honestly, the current situation wasn't something that Jack could solve.

It must be a real challenge for Zac to deal with Anika, Sullivan, and Kareem all at once.

"Zac..." Jack spoke up, looking at Zac expectantly.

However, Zac only shook his head in response. He still had no idea what to do. This felt like a predicament he couldn't seem to get out of at the moment.

Jack frowned, a hopeless look coming over his face. "In this situation, I'm afraid we..."

"Don't worry. I'll take care of this. Even though it seems difficult right now, I believe we can get through this no matter what," Zac said calmly with a serious expression. Although things weren't as simple as he thought they would be, he still hoped that he would be able to take down Kareem and Anika.

Jack nodded slightly, looking at Zac in concern. For some reason, he felt that Zac had resolutely made his decision.

This made Jack feel a little worried.

"Zac, it's fine as long as you don't act recklessly. Be careful and don't do anything stupid," Jack said, sounding slightly anxious.

If Zac made a risky plan at this point, they would be doomed.

Zac looked at the expression on Jack's face and smiled. "Don't worry, Jack. I won't do anything reckless," he said solemnly.

#### [Chapter 588 Negotiation](#)

Jack had guessed correctly. Zac really intended to negotiate with Kareem in order to get some information or any other thing from them.

However, getting what he wanted wasn't going to be as simple as he thought. Deciding to play it safe, Zac found Johnny first to put things into perspective.

Zac had always known that the only reason why Johnny sided with Kareem was just so he would finally leave Patricia.

"Zac? So here you are finally...in front of me," Johnny said in an indifferent tone, as though he had expected this all along.

Naturally, his tone put a frown on Zac's face. Trying to hide the frustration he felt, he took a deep breath and got lost in his thoughts for a few seconds.

Noticing the strange look on Zac's face, Johnny looked at him calmly and cleared his throat to bring Zac back to their conversation. "What's happening? I thought you wanted to save the company. Maybe I was wrong after all."

Zac's frown becoming even more pronounced, he fixed Johnny with a hard gaze. He pursed his lips, trying to find the right words to answer Johnny with.

Johnny could tell what Zac was thinking about. Obviously, he had to say something.

How could Zac not want to save the company? It was impossible! Just the thought of it was crazy.

The issue was that Zac had never considered the possibility of Johnny being against him. At that moment, he felt a little ridiculous, but after thinking it through, it wasn't really a surprise. Realizing how naive he had been, he smiled mockingly at himself.

Johnny didn't seem to be surprised by the strange smile that spread across Zac's face. He sighed and said in a low voice, "You know what? You are still the same as you have always been. You haven't changed one bit and it's sad."

Johnny wasn't being truthful. He could see that Zac had changed since he came back from the United States. Zac was no longer the silent and withdrawn boy he used to be, but a real man who had control over everything.

Johnny's hypocrisy amused Zac a little and he didn't bother hiding it. He didn't answer the question, but looked straight at Johnny with a cold expression.

Zac couldn't fully explain how he felt about Johnny. For as long as he could remember, there had never been any so-called family affection between them.

Because of that, Johnny had always felt Zac's coldness towards him, and was used to being ignored by him.

The look in Zac's eyes made Johnny feel vulnerable for a short time. A hint of bitterness flashed across his face and he muttered almost desperately, "I can't believe you still hate me after so many years!"

"Hate? Oh, no please! Don't go there," Zac answered coldly, not even looking away from Johnny for a second. "You should know why I came to you. Let's get to it."

"Of course, I know why you're here." Johnny looked helpless, disappointed that Zac was changing the topic. He was clearly refusing to talk about their relationship.

Zac noticed the disappointed look in Johnny's eyes, but didn't care. "I'm hoping you'll stop this."

Zac spoke as coldly as possible. It was difficult to believe he was talking to someone he had known practically all his life.

Since Zac wanted to play it that way, Johnny put on his indifference once again and matched Zac's cold attitude. "Do you think it's possible for me to stop now? At a time like this?" He looked up Zac and stared at him with a face that said he wasn't about to make things easy for him.

Zac frowned after hearing this. For once, his cold wall broke and a trace of sadness flashed through his deep-set eyes. He took a deep breath to help calm himself.

After all, he came here today with the main aim of negotiating with Johnny, not to quarrel.

Putting his objectives in mind, Zac tried hard to suppress the growing anger he felt. He exhaled heavily and said, "I know it's going to be difficult. So, just tell me what your condition is. I know you have one."

"Now that you're asking the right questions, it's very simple. All you have to do is leave Patricia," Johnny said rather lightly, as though they were discussing the weather.

When these words reached Zac's ears and he registered what had been said, he grew red with anger. Johnny was clearly trying to provoke him.

"Are you out of your mind?" Zac roared, unable to keep his calm after Johnny's stupid request.

He had always known that all of this would lead to Johnny asking him to do that. That had been his plan all along and Zac knew it. Johnny had always felt that Patricia wasn't deserving of Zac because of who she was.



"Maybe I am, but I'm also very determined. I've never hidden my thoughts about Patricia from anyone. That woman doesn't deserve you or our Reynolds family." Johnny expressed what he thought without any consideration for Zac's feelings.

Perhaps there was one time in the past when Johnny thought that Patricia was a good girl because of what she did for Zac. But when negative news spread concerning Patricia and the Sampson family...

It was simply impossible for the Reynolds family to consider having any contact with people without influence like her. Johnny had made up his mind and there was no changing it.

Zac didn't even need Johnny to say anything more. He could understand everything from his eyes. He sneered and looked at Johnny with the coldest stare ever.

"Of course, I know why you're here." Johnny looked helpless, disappointed that Zac was changing the topic. He was clearly refusing to talk about their relationship.

"Fine then! If it's going to be that way, forget I asked," Zac said coldly with his head held high. Then, he turned around and left without saying anything. There was no need staying there when he knew he wasn't going to obtain anything from him.

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Looking at Zac's receding back, Johnny shook his head helplessly. Disappointed by Zac's decision, he warned in a low voice, "Zac, don't overestimate your own strength. You think you can solve this on your own, but I assure you that you can't."

Zac abruptly turned his head to look at Johnny. His anger very clear on his face, he sneered ruthlessly, "Thank you for the reminder."

Needless to say, Johnny perfectly understood the meaning lying behind Zac's words. It was obvious that Zac's deep hatred for him hadn't wavered.

Seeing this, Johnny pursed his lips and sighed helplessly. The current situation was not under his control.

With Kereem and Anike working on this, things were getting out of hand.

Thinking of this, Johnny frowned and pressed his fingers through his hair in frustration. He pursed his lips, knowing that he couldn't do anything about what was going to follow suit. It was out of his control.

Handling Kereem and Anike were equally out of the question. He knew he couldn't change them.

Out of Johnny's presence, Zac felt so depressed that he couldn't put it into words. He didn't know what

to say or what to do. He felt like he was going to explode any second from now.

As he thinking of what to do, he received a call from Petricie. It was only when he saw her name on his screen that he felt like at least, one thing was okay with the world he lived in.

"Zec?" Petricie could only whisper his name through the phone. She gulped and stayed quiet for a moment, not knowing what to say.

To be honest, Petricie was very surprised when she heard the news. Zec had promised her so confidently that things would work out, but now...

Now, she wasn't so sure about it. She knew that it wasn't as simple as she had thought, and worse, she didn't know the amount of pressure Zec was in. All she knew right now was that, he had to be in a very bad mood.

Zec felt much better after hearing her voice. The heavy weight he felt in his heart lightened a little. A gentle smile flashed across his face and he said gently to reassure her, "I'm fine, okay? Don't worry."

His answer put a frown on Petricie's face because she knew he wasn't being completely honest. She sighed and said in a low voice, "With all that's going on, how can you say you are fine?"

Not standing far away from him, Petricie slowly walked up to him and patted him on the shoulder. "You just lied to me."

"Fine then! If it's going to be that way, forget I asked," Zac said coldly with his head held high. Then, he turned around and left without saying anything. There was no need staying there when he knew he wasn't going to obtain anything from him.

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Not standing far away from him, Patricia slowly walked up to him and patted him on the shoulder. "You just lied to me."

#### [Chapter 589 I Trust You This Time](#)

Zac turned around and looked straight at Patricia. Though he was surprised, a faint smile spotted his lips. "Patricia, I..."

Patricia didn't give him the chance to finish whatever he wanted to say.

"Zac, do you seriously think that I don't know what's on your mind? Don't even think of giving me any excuse since I won't believe you anyway." Zac wasn't sure he had ever seen her look so serious before.

He was so conflicted with his emotions that all he could afford was an awkward smile.

Patricia couldn't help her frown of displeasure when she noticed that smile lurking on his face. "Zac, there's no pretending with me when I already know everything."

Jack was so scared that Zac would do something stupid. He had no other choice but to turn to Patricia and let her in on all that was going on.

That was how Patricia found out Zac's real plans. The man was actually trying to help her get the Sampson Bay project and the company back. All along, she had been oblivious to what he had been doing.

Did the Sampson Bay project and the company matter that much to Patricia? Of course they did! They were very important to her. But compared to Zac, they meant practically nothing. She would choose him over any other property without a second thought.

"Patricia, it's not like that. Please, don't think that way." Zac's tone was so serious. He put on a straight face, willing Patricia to believe him.

Unfortunately for him, Patricia wasn't going to be fooled easily. She squinted her eyes and stared hard at him. With anger evident in her voice, she said, "Are you seriously still trying to hide it from me? Maybe I should let you know that Jack has told me everything before you say something else." She let out a heavy breath, trying as much as possible to control her anger.

Zac's head snapped at attention after hearing this. "What did you say? Jack told you everything?"

Patricia gave a curt nod and asked straightforwardly, "So, are you still planning on hiding it from me?"

Feeling backed into a corner he couldn't escape, Zac pursed his lips and sighed helplessly. He put his long arms around her waist and pulled her to him. "Well, what do you think? Will I?"

Truth be told, she wasn't very sure if he was going to tell her the truth. She knew Zac's character very well. And if the man she knew really wanted to tell her, he would have done so earlier without turning about the bush so much.

The more she thought about it, the more things came into perspective. She was still trying to see if she could believe Zac or not.

"Zac, if you're serious about not wanting to hide anything from me, just tell me already," Patricia said impatiently. She was getting tired of asking him about it and not getting any answers.

Zac snickered when he felt her impatience. With a gentle smile across his face, he asked gently, "Come on, Patricia! Don't you trust me?"

His question made her sigh again. She looked down for a while, then, later on looked up at him and said, "Fine, I guess I'll trust you this time." She permitted herself a smile after saying this, held Zac's hand and quickly walked towards the apartment with him in tow.

Back in the safety of the apartment, Zac let out a sweet smile, then pulled Patricia back to him.

"Patricia, are you still angry?" Zac asked, looking at her in the eyes with his smile never leaving his face.

Surprised by his question, Patricia choked on air. "I'm not angry, Zac. Instead, I'm a little depressed," she said after recovering from her coughing fit.

How was she not supposed to be depressed? Zac wasn't okay, but he was struggling so hard to be.

Patricia had always been very open to Zac about this. She didn't want him thinking too much and putting himself under too much pressure.

Naively, she thought that Zac had listened to her and wouldn't exert himself too much. But it was only what she had wanted to believe. He never took her words seriously and only did what he thought he had to.

Every time she thought of this, her anger resurfaced and she didn't even know how to express it.

Zac understood how she felt, especially since she wasn't able to keep her emotions off her face. "Looks like you are really angry," he said in a low voice. He pouted and looked straight into her eyes, forcing her to look into his and see his sincerity.

Unable to bear the look on Zac's face, Patricia sighed helplessly and said softly, "Zac, I wasn't trying to make you feel like I don't trust you, but..."

The more she thought about it, the more things came into perspective. She was still trying to see if she could believe Zac or not.

She just didn't want Zac to put too much pressure on himself. It was not good. Especially if it was only to get something for her.

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Zac nodded in understanding at her. With a gentle smile, he brought his head down to her level and kissed her.

Later on, Patricia lay in bed, sleeping, while Zac listened to her steady breath with a smug smile. Of course, he couldn't stay happy the whole evening. Something had to cross his mind to make him frown and depressed once again.

The present situation wasn't as simple as Zac had thought it to be. Kereem and Anika had already taken control of the whole situation. It wasn't a surprise that Zac was finding so many difficulties.

However, Zac wasn't going to give up without a fight, no matter how difficult it seemed to be. He just couldn't waste an opportunity like this.

Although Zec gave himself so many pep talks, he wasn't fully convinced himself. His mind went blank and he didn't know what to do or how to go about it.

Zec ran his fingers through his hair, feeling frustrated and not able to think straight.

He couldn't hold back the sighs that kept escaping his lips. He felt like he had gotten himself in a situation where he couldn't find his way out.

"Christ! What do I do now?" Zec murmured in frustration. He seemed to have an idea but it kept escaping his mind whenever it became clearer to him.

Zec grabbed his hair and pulled on it. Never had he felt this trapped in his life and he was hating the feeling.

Unknown to Zec, Petricie was up and could hear him. Her heart ached as she imagined all the pain he was going through.

If Petricie had known things would turn out like this, she would have never offered her own opinion and ideas.

She had never seen Zec so upset before. She bit her lower lip tightly, trying to hold in the sob that was threatening to expose her.

If only she could share the burden with Zec!

That was when she got an amazing idea. All she wanted was to help Zec. So, she had to keep other problems at the back of her mind.

She decided to negotiate with Anika, and come to an understanding with her. She was hoping that she would at least show mercy and not make things difficult for Zec.

She just didn't want Zac to put too much pressure on himself. It was not good. Especially if it was only to get something for her.

Zac nodded in understanding at her. With a gentle smile, he brought his head down to her level and kissed her.

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"Christ! What do I do now?" Zac murmured in frustration. He seemed to have an idea but it kept escaping his mind whenever it became clearer to him.

Zac grabbed his hair and pulled on it. Never had he felt this trapped in his life and he was hating the feeling.

Unknown to Zac, Patricia was up and could hear him. Her heart ached as she imagined all the pain he was going through.

If Patricia had known things would turn out like this, she would have never offered her own opinion and ideas.

She had never seen Zac so upset before. She bit her lower lip tightly, trying to hold in the sob that was threatening to expose her.

If only she could share the burden with Zac!

That was when she got an amazing idea. All she wanted was to help Zac. So, she had to keep other problems at the back of her mind.

She decided to negotiate with Anika, and come to an understanding with her. She was hoping that she would at least show mercy and not make things difficult for Zac.

#### [Chapter 590 Let's Have A Talk](#)

With the plan formed inside her head, Patricia decided to take immediate action and went to find Anika.

Anika was surprised when Patricia took the initiative to see her. She didn't actually expect that the woman would come to her in person.

However, when Anika saw the expression on Patricia's face, a smile instantly curved her lips. Raising her eyebrows and chin, Anika looked like a victor looking at a loser.

"What can I do for you, Patricia?" Anika asked in a straightforward tone, looking at Patricia sharply as though trying to find some sort of hint on her face.

Patricia, however, was already used to Anika's sarcastic tone and knew exactly what the woman was thinking about in her head.

Unfazed, Patricia gave a faint smile in response. "I came here today because I wanted to talk to you, Anika."

"Talk?" Anika repeated with a frosty smile. "I don't think I have anything to talk about with you, Patricia."

Patricia frowned, biting her lower lip in annoyance. She knew that Anika was deliberately trying to make things difficult for her. Patricia took a deep breath and plastered a polite smile on her face. "I thought you're a smart person. How can you not understand what I mean?"

Although Patricia was still smiling, her gaze was sharp as she stared at Anika.

Anika, however, seemed unaffected by this and simply smiled back, her slender fingers tapping the table lightly.

"Is that so? But I'm afraid I really don't know what you're trying to say, Patricia," Anika said cheerfully and looked at Patricia defiantly.

By this time, Patricia had already noticed that Anika wasn't taking her seriously. Anika obviously didn't want to talk to Patricia at all and just wanted to make fun of her.

Patricia stood up with a furious look. "Since you obviously have no intention of having talk with me, then I won't force you." She then turned around and prepared to leave, not wanting to argue with Anika at all.

However, just before Patricia reached the door, Anika spoke up.

"Patricia, you should know what I want. So why bother coming to me?" Anika asked, a faint smile curving her lips as she gazed at Patricia with a triumphant expression.

Patricia stopped in her tracks, stunned. All of a sudden, she didn't know what to say.

Anika was right. Patricia should've known what Anika's intentions were before she came barging in here without thinking twice about it.

Patricia knew. She knew it clearly that there was actually no need for her to come here.

Anika had always wanted Patricia to leave Zac so that she could be with him instead.



"In fact, I only have one simple request. Everything will be fine as long as you leave Zac," Anika chirped, a smug look forming on her face.

Patricia stared at her, at a loss for words.

For a brief moment, Patricia pondered about it in her head, wondering if she really should leave Zac.

But she crushed that train of thought as quickly as it appeared.

She knew very well that if she left Zac, he would be left heartbroken.

"I..." Patricia began hesitantly, her mind racing as she thought of ways to solve this problem.

To be honest, she hoped that leaving Zac would be the better option, but the situation wasn't going to be that simple. If she decided to break it off with Zac, things would change drastically.

Zac would never allow her to leave, especially not after the hard times they went through just to be together.

"Patricia, if you're so hesitant, I can give you a day to think it over. Give me your reply at this time tomorrow," Anika said curtly before turning around and going back to her study.

Patricia stood there, frustrated, her mind filled with conflicted thoughts.

Once she left Anika's apartment, Patricia looked up at the sky with a sorrowful expression. She had no idea how to deal with this situation right now.

In this moment of confusion, she felt her mind slowly go blank, sadness creeping inside her heart.

Suddenly, a familiar voice reached her ears. When she saw that Zac was standing at the side with a look of rage, she couldn't help but swallow. She bit her lip nervously and turned around to face him without saying a word.

What was Zac doing here? Did he figure out what happened? It seemed that Zac was furious right now because she went to see Anika.

Patricia stopped in her tracks, stunned. All of a sudden, she didn't know what to say.

"Patricia..." Zac roared, clearly seething in anger.

"Petrie..." Zac roared, clearly seething in anger.

"Zac, what a coincidence! What brings you here?" Petrie said with an awkward smile as she hurriedly

took a few steps back, wary of Zec's growing anger.

Zec's face darkened in response as he stared at Petricie, clenching his jaw.

"Petricie, you..." Zec's voice trailed off as he tried to control himself. He exhaled a heavy breath, completely furious at this point.

If Nicholes hadn't reported it to Zec, he wouldn't have known that Petricie went to talk to Anike herself. At first, Zec didn't believe it, but now, it seemed that what Nicholes said was true.

"I just went here for a walk," Petricie said awkwardly, regretting it soon after.

There was no doubt that it was strange for her to come here just for a walk.

Even Petricie felt that the excuse she gave didn't sound believable at all.

"Went for a walk?" Zec exclaimed indignantly, staring at her with gritted teeth. "You're still lying to me. Why did you decide to take a walk around Anike's apartment?"

He was on the verge of exploding at this point. If he continued to argue like this with Petricie, he might not be able to control himself.

Petricie gazed at the exasperated look on Zec's face and decided not to hide anything from him anymore. She lowered her head and whispered, "You already know about it. Why are you still asking me?" She then raised her eyes a little to look at Zec.

However, Zec's face was already red from anger. He exhaled a heavy breath, practically seething.

Perhaps only Zec knew just how angry he was.

Petricie trembled at Zec's expression and subconsciously took a step back. "Zec, please don't be so angry. We can talk things over calmly."

Zec, however, had no intention of discussing anything with her at all. Maybe he should just teach her a lesson this time.

Thinking of this, Zec walked up to Petricie intently and wrapped his arms around her, not allowing any kind of resistance.

"Patricia..." Zac roared, clearly seething in anger.

"Zac, what a coincidence! What brings you here?" Patricia said with an awkward smile as she hurriedly took a few steps back, wary of Zac's growing anger.

Zac's face darkened in response as he stared at Patricia, clenching his jaw.

"Patricia, you..." Zac's voice trailed off as he tried to control himself. He exhaled a heavy breath, completely furious at this point.

If Nicholas hadn't reported it to Zac, he wouldn't have known that Patricia went to talk to Anika herself. At first, Zac didn't believe it, but now, it seemed that what Nicholas said was true.

"I just went here for a walk," Patricia said awkwardly, regretting it soon after.

There was no doubt that it was strange for her to come here just for a walk.

Even Patricia felt that the excuse she gave didn't sound believable at all.

"Went for a walk?" Zac exclaimed indignantly, staring at her with gritted teeth. "You're still lying to me. Why did you decide to take a walk around Anika's apartment?"

He was on the verge of exploding at this point. If he continued to argue like this with Patricia, he might not be able to control himself.

Patricia gazed at the exasperated look on Zac's face and decided not to hide anything from him anymore. She lowered her head and whispered, "You already know about it. Why are you still asking me?" She then raised her eyes a little to look at Zac.

However, Zac's face was already red from anger. He exhaled a heavy breath, practically seething.

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Zac, however, had no intention of discussing anything with her at all. Maybe he should just teach her a lesson this time.

Thinking of this, Zac walked up to Patricia intently and wrapped his arms around her, not allowing any kind of resistance.